There are undoubtedly more little Christ-

mas novelties and favors this year than

shapes and sizes and for all prices are spread

over the counters and it will be a poor

and their recklessness in general," said the

never saw anywhere else, and I have done

with two wings, one for the baby and one for mamma, so instead of being false in his

domestic relations he appears to be proud of them and to flaunt them."

"Times must be mighty hard for second

hand book dealers these days," said the

business man. "I never thought about it

until a short time ago, when I had occasion

I would buy as many of my new stock as

possible second hand, but I found that

many of them would cost me more than

Lind over for her concert tour, beginning

in old Castle Garden, there was the same cry about exorbitant prices. Tickets were

Celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Prof

Astor by the alumni of New York Univer-

sity to celebrate the closing of the thirty-

fifth year of continuous service of Prof.

John J. Stevenson of the department of

The small ballroom of the hotel rang

rose and amid the waving of napkins yelled

for Stevie and sang lustily "For he's a

fraternity Prof. Stevenson belongs, added

to the general merriment with a song to

Delt more loyal, man more true, never came from

At the close of a speech in which he ex-

pressed the debt of every N. Y. U. man to

their our teacher, Willis Fletcher Johnson

of the class of '79 presented the professor

Prof. Stevenson expressed his thanks for the tribute. He said in part:

"I have labored all my life to earn your respect and confidence and to make you know your worth and to use it. My motto, like that of the late Benjamin N. Martin, is to recognize the manhood in the student

and to make him recognize it himself. I may have felt at times that perhaps that

was not the best course to pursue, but from the letters I have received in the past fort-

forgotten their college days and that we are bound together by the same ties that bind us to our loved alma mater."

THE BENGUIAT SALE.

Total at Yesterday's Session \$20,300-

Highest Price \$750.

The second day of the annual sale of em-

broideries, laces, lamps and other art ob-

iects, the collection of Vitall Benguiat,

brought many more buyers yesterday to

the American Art Galleries than on the

preceding day. Many local dealers availed

themselves of the low prices which pre-

vailed to get bargains. In consequence of

the higher quality of the goods offered by

Auctioneer Kirby the sales for the after-

noon were much higher than on Thursday.

The total for yesterday's sale was \$20.

The highest price of the afternoon, \$750,

was paid by Mr. Thomas for a Renaissance

silver lamp decorated with classical de-signs. A pair of Genoese jardinière cut

velvet panels aroused spirited bidding.
Otto Bernet, an agent, bid up to \$550 for
them. They were finally knocked down
to Mr. Thomas for \$570 each. Mr. Bernet

paid \$400 for an Indo-Spanish Beldaquino and \$525 for an imperial yellow velvet cover-

let of Chinese workmanship.
The Metropolitan Museum of Art paid

\$400 each for two rare specimens of English

art. One was a lambrequin of the Eliza-bethan period, in two pieces, embroidered in colored silks. The other was an em-

broidered altar frontal of the late fifteenth

Smith, Paul Farnum, C. I. Hudson, Mrs. W. H. Crocker, Mrs. I. Untermyer and Mrs. L. H. Leggitt.

Mrs. L. H. Leggitt.
The sale continues this afternoon

purchasers included W. Hinckle

For he ever can inform us what is truly gneiss

Boys of Gamma, swel | the clamor-Stevenson.

with a large silver loving cup.

A group of Delta Phi men, to which

geology.

jolly good tellow."

the tune of "Tammany":

Stevenson! Stevenson!

Stevenson! Stevenson!

founded by a gift of \$3,000."

BERLIOZ'S DRAMATIC LEGEND IN OPERATIC GUISE.

First Performance Here of the Work in This Shape-A Series of Handsome Stage Pictures Without Much Dramatic Interest -The Opera Admirably Presented

Hector Berlioz's "La Damnation de Faust" was performed in operatic shape at the Metropolitan Opera House last night for the first time in this country. The composition in its original form is called a "dramatic legend," and in this guise it is not altogether unknown to Americans, though its presentations have been few. The work in its operatic arrangement has been a feature of recent seasons in France, and Raoul Gunzbourg, a Parisian impresario, is responsible for this rearrange-

ment of the legend. "La Damnation de Faust" was first performed in the United States by the Symphony Society under Dr. Leopold Damrosch on February 11, 1880, the Oratorio and Arion societies providing the requisite choral forces. Even at that time the theatrical quality of some of the music suggested the possibility of arranging the work for operatic performance, but the obstacles in the way seemed large. However, Mr. Gunzbourg found it practicable to bridge the chasms in the text and music by the aid of spectacular features now so common in opera and by the addition of a few phrases in the voice parts.

Whether the work in its new form will prove to be a permanent addition to our list of operas remains to be seen. The production last night was creditable to the Metropolitan Opera House and to the enterprise of Mr. Conried. The opportunities or scenic display were not lost and the and the various tableaux were effective. When all was said and done, however, there remained an impression similar to that made by Boito's "Mefistofele." Berlioz's setting of the story is fragmentary, disjointed, episodic. Scenes of splendid dramatic value alternate with others which are plainly not designed for theatrical use The action halts and the dramatic continuity

s of the slightest. With much of the interesting instrumental portions of the score this public is already familiar. They are often perfor med in What more obvious than that we should see the soldiers marching to the should see the solders march? What more nat ural than that the dance of the sylphs and the minuet of the will o' the wisps should introduce ballets? But let it be understood that these episodes are treated

effectively in the theatrical representation.

There seems to be no reason at this time for a discussion of Berlioz's composition. It is not new. In the arrangement for the stage the sequence of the scenes in the ori ginal has not been altered. Some changes have been made in the location of changes have been made in the location of portions of the action in order that the practical requirements of the stage may be met. The score asks us to find Faust alone on the plains of Hungary in the first scene. The opera shows him in a room with a large window at the rear giving a view of the country. Faust sollicquizes and here the voice part is extended to accompany the long orchestral description and here the voice part is extended to accompany the long orchestral description
which follows the soliloquy in the original.
The peasant song and dance take place
out ide the window and presently soldiers
march across the stage to the stirring strains
of the Rakoczy Indulo. It is a fine sight,
white steems to mean little. but it seems to mean little.

The next scene shows us Faust alone in

The next scene shows us Faust alone in his study in the first act of the Gounod opera. He is about to take poison, when he is interrupted by the strains of the Easter hymn from without. He prays and is startled by the entrance of Mephistopheles from the fireplace. The flend invites him to go forth and see the world and they depart together. The next scene is laid in Auerbach's beer cellar in Leipsic. The students carouse and Brander sings a drunken song. Mephistopheles, as in the kirmess in "Faust," sings his song, which is this time about a big black flea. The students, however, first sing a capital fugue on the melody of Brander's song. Faust expresses distaste for the scene and Mephistopheles bears him away. The two disappear down a trap amid red fire in expresses distaste for the scene and Merhistopheles hears him away. The two disappear down a trap amid red fire in good old fashioned style.

e next find Faust asleep in a beautiful forest with the fiend singing to him. We have a mysterious chorus, and Faust, dreaming, sees Marguerite. After the chorus comes the ballet of the sylphs. The operatic dance introduces the aerial mechanism, similar to that employed in "Peter Pan." The sylphs soar into the air and, tipled version of Loie Fuller cleaving the The dance was well aratractive. nged last night and was one of the sucsees of the production. Sext we see a square, with a church one

and Marguerite's home on the other. here are no garden and no garden scene. home is conveniently opened so well nay observe what goes on inside. chorus of soldiers and students, Mephis-orheles brings Faust upon the stage and shers him into the house. There is some where him into the house. There is some added dialogue here. Marguerite presently acrives and entering her home, where Faust has concealed himself, sings her "King of Thule." Mephistopheles enters They dance, while Marguerite appar-

Mephislopheles presently draws her, in a sort of hypnotized state, out of the house, the tries to enter the church and sees the face of Faust in the wall. She strives to pray, but her passion overcomes her. this part of the action is carried on to concluding strains of the dance. It is at this point that the artificiality of the stage arrangement is most notable. Back in the house Marguerite meets Faust and falls into his arms, while the neighbors, who have got wind of what is going on, peep in through the cracks and call for the maid's

this arrangement the whole of the third part of Berlioz's legend is brought into one act and a single location. The fourth part requires for stage purposes four scenic pictures. The first furnishes a setting for Marguerite's lament, which is sung in a moonlit chamber. We are a setting for Marquerile's lament, which is sung in a moonlit chamber. We are transported suddenly from this to a rocky pass where Faust invokes Nature and is suddenly joined by Mephistopheles, who informs him that Marquerile is about to be executed for the murder of her mother. Faust demands the aid of the fiend to save her and is required to sign the fatal conher and is required to sign the fatal con-tract which is brought into the very first

tract which is brought into the very first scene of Gounod's opera.

The two now set off, but not to rescue the girl, as Faust hopes. They gallop to the flery domain of Mephistopheles. The original score is here curtailed not a little and its big choral effects give way to scenic approximately. A paper ma conveys, in a manner. spectacle. A panorama conveys, in a manner, the passage from earth to Hades, and a final picture shows us the angels hovering over

Marguerite's little town.

The angels sing much too long while we sit and look at painted canvas and the opera comes to a lame and impotent conclusion.

The whole of the last act is patchworx. In the cantata form the imagination was allowed free play, but the attempt to body

forth the conceptions of Goethe as com-posed by Berlioz here fails sadly.

The best scene in the operatic version is without doubt that in the Auerbach cellar.

Here we have solo and chorus in their ex-Here we have solo and chorus in their expected operatic relations, a stage picturesquely occupied, movement, effective grouping and something like a genuine theatrical illusion. But for the most part the work is deficient in action and its pictures have no vital connection. What is still more unfortunate, the three chief personages of the drama do nothing particularly dramatic and only in the case of Mephistopheles is there any approach to a characterization upon which an interpretative artist can build.

Even here, however, the material is not

Even here, however, the material is not substantial. Mr. Plancon did as much as possible with it, and sang the music, some of which is dangerously high for his voice, with great skill. Mr. Rousselière sang the music of Faust creditably, and Geraldine

Farrar made her second appearance here in the rôle of Marguerite. Of her interpretation more may be said later. Mr. Chalmin, a French barytone, made his début as

Brander, filling the part excellently. The chorus covered itself with glory in the cellar scene and the orchestra played fairly. It must be said that the features of last night's presentation which seemed to give the greatest pleasure to the audi ence were spectacular. These features were admirable. The production was pictorially superb. The ballet of the sylphs had to be repeated. It was capitally performed and beautifully illuminated

"FAUST" AT THE MANHATTAN. Gounod's Opera Is Well Sung by the Ham-

merstein Artists. Gounod's "Faust" was sung at the Manhattan Opera House last night to a fair sized audience, which in spite of the chill air in the theatre was cordial in welcoming the artists and enthusiastic as the action progressed. The performance was a credit to Mr. Hammerstein. The opera was well sung, well staged and particularly well

Mme. Donalda, soprano, and M. Dalmores, tenor, were the stars who made their débuts and both made distinctly favorable impressions. Mme. Donalda has good looks and youth, which helped to make her a convincing Marguerite, and her acting had considerably more merit than usually goes with an operatic voice. She sang the garden music with intelligence and feeling that merited the recalls which she shared at the end of the act. M. Dalmores, too, was at his best in this act. He sang with confidence and the reception which was given him presages popularity for him. As Mephistopheles M. Arimondi repeated the success which he scored in another part on the opening night of the opera house, and sang the "Calf of Gold" song so well that there were repeated cries for an encore, which, however, were unheeded.

The minor parts were less competently garden music with intelligence and feeling

The minor parts were less competently handled. M. Seveilhac, the Valentin, after a nervous beginning sang acceptably, but the Siebel of Mme. Giaconia was a dispropriement appointment. She had considerable trouble in adhering to the key and her voice lacked smoothness. M. Fossetta was the Wagner and Mme. Donnelle the Marthe.

The production moved with a smooth-

ness and finish that was a credit to the stage manager, and the big chorus contained more good looks than operagoers here are

THE FIGHT OVER "LA BOHEME." Hammerstein in Court to Hear Argument on His Right to Puccini's Opera.

Oscar Hammerstein, impresario of the new Manhattan Opera House, was present yesterday in the United States Circuit Court to hear his counsel, Nathan Vidaver, tell Judge Townsend why the man of many theatres should not be enjoined from producing Puccini's "La Bohème" at the Thirtyfourth street temple of music.

If Mr. Hammerstein felt any resentment toward his former counsel, former Judge Dittenhoefer, for going over to the enemy in the grand opera strife, he did not let it become apparent, but took the opportunity to inquire after the welfare and good health of "my dear friend Signor Caruso."

Mr. Vidaver in his argument said that Herr Conried was really at the bottom of the attempt to keep Mr. Hammerstein from producing "La Bohème," and not G. Ricordi & Co. of Milan, Italy, the complainants in the action, who assert that they hold the sole rights to the publication and produc-tion of Puccini's operas. Mr. Vidaver ridiculed the pretensions of Ricordi & Co. and their New York agent, George Max-well, that they never allowed any manager to produce the opera until they had passed on the cast of singers.

He declared that at the Tivoli, a ten,

twenty, and thirty opera house in San Francisco, "La Bohème" was a regular attraction.

Alessandro Bonci, said Mr. Vidaver, had never been heard of by Mr. Hammerstein until he went to see Mr. Maxwell about getting permission to produce the opera.

Mr. Maxwell then told him that he couldn't went a better teer for the role of head to get a better tenor for the rôle of kodelfo than Bonci. It was on the advice of a member of the firm of Ricordi & Co. given to Mr. Hammerstein when he was in Milan last spring that he engaged Eleanore de Cisneros, formerly Eleanor Broadfoot, to sing the part of Mimi.

Judge Dittenhoefer laughed at this as-

sertion, saying that Mme. de Cisneros was a mezzo soprano, and so couldn't be con-sidered for the part. Mr. Hammerstein, he asserted, who declared himself a business man, based his claim to the right to produce the opera on an alleged verbal contract said to have been concluded with Mr. Maxwell in the lobby of the Victoria Theatre last spring, and never sought to get the agreement put into writing. If, as Mu agreement put into writing. If, as Mr. Hammerstein asserted, "La Bohame" couldn't make or break an opera season, then the injunction ought to be granted, as the rights of the complainants would be protected, and Mr. Hammerstein, according to his own admission, wouldn't be hurt

Judge Townsend gave the contesting parties until next Wednesday to submit briefs.

FRANCIS M'MILLEN PLAYS. Young American Violinist Makes His Debut Here.

Francis Macmillen, the young American violinist, made his début, assisted by Walter Damrosch and the New York Symphony Orchestra, before a large audience at Car-negie Hall last night. He was received with

Mr. Macmillen's selections were the A minor concerto of Sinding, an allegro in E flat major of Mozart and Paganita De paior concerto. Mr. Macmillen was re-E flat major of Mozart and Faganin's D najor concerto. Mr. Macmillen was recalled several times after each of these numbers. As an encore to the Mozart selection he played a fugue in G minor of the Mozart selection he played a fugue in G minor of the fugue in G mi After the Paganini concerto, which closed the programme, the audience ap-plauded until Macmillen returned and played

The orchestra opened the programme with the prelude to Moszkowski's "Boabdil." Two Norwegian pieces of Grieg were re-peated in answer to the handclapping.

News of Plays and Players.

John E. Keller!, now starring in "Taps," will make his first appearance as Hamlet in the course of his engagement at the Shubert Theatre, Brooklyn, the week of December 17. A complete scenic produc-tion will be given on Friday, December 21, and at the Saturday matinee.

The Bohemian Club of San Francisco has

nt \$200 to pay for a seat at the Barnabeesent \$200 to pay for a seat at Tuesday in Macdonald testimonial next Tuesday in the Broadway Theatre. Mr. Barnabee's share in what will be a very large "take' has been swelled by the cancelling, on the part of various creditors, of notes and vouchers amounting to nearly \$10,000.

New Vaudeville Theatre in The Bronx. The Hansen-Bauer Realty Company took title yesterday to a plot of ground for a new vaudeville theatre in The Bronx, to be built where 165th street, Third avenue, Franklin avenue and Boston road meet. George Blumenthal will manage it.

A "Stag" in Honor of Senator McCarren. A big "stag" racket is to be pulled off to-night at the kings County Democratic Club at the Schermerhorn street clubhouse in Brooklyn It is intended as a welcome to Senator P. H. McCarren on his safe reto senator P. H. McCarren on his safe re-turn from his hunting adventures in the Far West, and Comptroller Herman A. Metz, Luke D. Stapleton, William S. Hurley, Isaac M. Kapper and all the other leading Democrats of Brooklyn will participate.

Amherst Aggle Alumni Dine.

The New York alumni of the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, Mass., held last night at the St. Denis Hotel their twenty-first annual reunion and banquet. Dr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, president of the college, was the guest of honor. The president of the alumni club, Dr. Charles S. Howe, and President Butterfield spoke.

COOK GUEST OF EXPLORERS.

TELLS TRAVELLERS HOW HE CLIMBED MT. M'KINLEY.

Peary Not There, but Sends a Letter Suggesting That Mrs. Hubbard Be Made a Member -Dr. Cook Recounts the Hardships of the Climb-Food Ran Short.

Dr. Frederick A. Cook of Brooklyn told the Explorers' Club last night how he climbed to the top of Mount McKinley on a diet of wood alcohol. He told, too, how a turn in his luck gave him the chance of getting to the highest point in North America after he had given up all hope of making the summit.

The Explorers' Club, which was organized about a year ago by men who have done things, gave its first annual dinner last night in honor of Dr. Cook. He was elected president of the club yesterday afternoon in place of Gen. Greely. The dinner was held in the Café Atelier at 33 West Sixtyseventh street.

Col. David L. Brainard, first vice-president of the Explorers, who was one of the six survivors of the Greely expedition and was rescued by Admiral Schley in 1884, sat with Prof. H. C. Parker of Columbia, who went exploring in Alaska with Cook. Herbert L. Bridgeman, secretary of the Peary Arctic Club; Anthony Fiala of the Ziegler pole hunting outfit; Frank M. Chapman, the bird man of the Museum of Natural History; Prof. M. H. Saville, the archæologist who has just got back from Ecuador; C. H. Townsend, director of the Aquarium, who has been deep sea fishing in the South Seas; S. P. Verner, who returned not long ago from an exploring trip in the Congo country; Albert Operti, the historical painter and polar explorer, and Henry Collins Walsh, a pole hunter himself, were some of the men who sat around the long

tables in the Atelier. Commander Peary was not able to be present, but the club toasted him and drank to his good fortune anyway. Gen. Greely, former president of the E plorers', sent a letter in which he suggested that Mrs. Mina B. Hubbard, who made her way through Labrador after her husband lost his life there, should be elected an honorary member of the club. It isn't likely that she will get in, because the club has barred women out, but President Roosevelt has a better chance. Anyway, said a member of the club, he explored the Culebra cut, and that is something.

Dr. Cook is a small man, a lthough ruggedly built, and he looks more like a student than a mountain climber. He told his story slowly and appeared to enjoy the telling of as much as he did getting to the top of Mount McKinley

"We left Seattle on May 16 last," said the doctor, "Bellmore Brown, Prof. Parker, Russell W. Porter, Mr. Miller and several others. We landed on the Alaskan coast on May 27 and our ill luck began from that moment. Ravenous Esquimau dogs at-tacked six of our beress and drove them tacked six of our horses and drove them away. A few days later six more horses got caught on a plain of burning lignite coal and three of them were burned to death. We ascended a system of small rivers with a forty foot launch of only rivers with a forty foot launch of only twenty inches draught and worked our way with great suffering to within sixty-eight miles of the base of the mountain. Sometimes we swam ice cold rivers. Sometimes we plunged through deep drifts of snow. Sometimes we got caught in quick-sands and struggled out just barely. Time and time again we failed on our attack upon the old mountain. We attacked on the northeast side.

the northeast side.
"When we had worked upward through
the foothills to a height of 5,000 feet we ran
the foothills to a height of be perpenup against what appeared to be perpen-dicular cliffs for 15,000 feet. There seemed to be no way of ever finding an opening We made up our minds practically that the mountain couldn't be climbed, so we peat weeks in exploring a great glacier, collecting specimens and taking of serva-ions. During that exploration came the first bit of good luck. We found an old miners' trail, long deserted, that ran for four miles in the direction we wanted to go. At the end of the trail we came upon system of caribou trails which took us

twelve miles further.
"At that time we had no idea of making the summit and were ready to give up almost any day. We came to a cliff about 4,000 feet high and managed to find footholds on it. By night of the day we started to climb the cliff we had worked upward half the distance and had to stick for the night. Next morning we were undecided whether to go ahead or turn back, but decided to go

to go ahead or turn back, but decided to go ahead, since we had gained so much.

"All the time the seven of us were roped together. Our supplies were of the slimmest. We had a small store of perminican (dried beef and tallow), of small, hard biscuits, tea, sugar and pea soup. We made two meals a day, morning and evening. To make tea we had to dig a little snow from the floor of our tent and it took two from the floor of our tent and it took two hours to melt the snow and get the water to a boiling point. The temperature at 18,000 feet was sixteen degrees below zero (the same as at the top of the mountain we found later) and it seemed as if we would ver be warm again.
"To make things worse, the cans in which

our wood alcohol, our fuel, were stored leaked, and our tea and sugar got soaked. So we had to live partly on wood alcoho for most of the trip up the mountain. We were so terribly exhausted during the two or three days before we got to the top that our hearts pumped terribly, and it seemed a frightful effort to lift one foot after the

At night we made camp wherever possible, making snow houses and wrapping ourselves up in our sleeping bags. Some-times at night we had to kick each other and nummel ourselves with our fists to get even a measure of warmth. They were the most miserable days I ever spent or expect to

"It was 10:30 o'clock on the morning of September 16 when we finally gained the top. We were so worn out, so terribly exhausted, dizzy and numb in every faculty that not a man of us could really appreciate the glorious sight that unrolled before us. In all we spent just twenty minutes on the summit, taking the temperature, getting our angles and doing other hurried scientific

It was no easy matter getting down again Cook said, but the Journey was accom-ished, although it left them weak and Mr. Chapman told some bird hunting stories, and Mr. Townsend of the Aquarium gave the explorers some of his experiences hunting for rare fishes in the South Seas.

Others that talked were Prof. Saville, who made some archeological finds in Ecuador; Herbert L. Bridgeman and S. P. Verner, on the results of his exploration in the Congo Fire Damages Fort Wool Near Newport News. NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 7 .- Fort Wool, commonly known as Ripraps, in Hampton Roads, a few miles off Old Point Comfort, was partly burned this afternoon.

Over \$400,000 for the Brevoort Apartment House.

origin of the fire is unknown. Fort Wool was recently reestablished because of its strategic position commanding Hampton

and lower Chesapeake Bay

fire did no great damage to the fortifica-

The eight story Brevoort apartment house, in Fulton street and Bedford avenue, Brooklyn, has been sold by Mrs. Susan C. Holiday, the owner. It brought over \$400,000. The syndicate which bought the property is largely interested in the Broadway Theatre and adjacent property on Broad-way and Stockton street. It is intended eventually to transform the building into LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

HOCH DER COGHLAN! THIS TIME. In spite of his great success Dr. Karl

Muck will not be heard after this season as the conductor of the Boston Symphony JOYOUS FEAST TO MARK THE Orchestra. His contract with the Royal REAR ADMIRAL'S RETIREMENT. Opera House in Berlin begins next October

opera House in Berlin begins next October and continues for six years.

"When I called to pay my respects to the Kaiser before leaving for the United States," Dr. Muck said the other day, "he said before he gave me his hand, 'Muck, you are going away for only a year, are you not?' I told him I should return next fall. 'Here is my hand on that,' the Kaiser said then, 'Good-by for only a year.' Naval Commandery Testimonial Banquet Carried Out in Ship's Style-Kind Words From Roosevelt -Guest of Honor Gives His Receipt for Proper Living

Rear Admiral Joseph B. Coghlan was feasted at Delmonico's last night in honor of his retirement by the New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States, of which he is the present comever before. Hundreds of varieties in all mander. The Admiral got a hearty recep-The festivities were held in the Red room,

family that cannot afford some kind of a souvenir at the Christmas dinner table. decorated appropriately for the occasion, souvenir at the Christmas dinner table. There are papier maché nuts, apples, pumpkins, turkeys, Santa Claus figures, little boxes in all shapes, tiny hats, stockings, champagne bottles, flower pots and baskets, brightly colored and all decorated with a spray of holly. The cheap ones far outnumber the high priced. with Old Glory aloft and beside the Rear Admiral's pennant, directly back of the speakers' table. Here on either side of he guests of honor sat George De Forest Barton, Vice-Commander of the Naval Commandery; Rear Admiral Francis J. Higginson, U.S. N., retired; Gen. H.C. King, Chaplain Reaney; Congressman Willaim "I hear a great deal about the wi cked-Sulzer, Jarvis B. Edson, E. C. Benedict, ness of New York men, their infidelity Rear Admiral J. A. B. Smith, U. S. N., retired; Rear Admiral G. W. Baird, U. S. N., woman who deals in real estate, "but I see retired, and Rear Admiral J. B. Smith, U. S. a bit of contradictory evidence here that I N., retired. business in nearly every large city in this country and some in Europe. It is necessary for me to visit a great many offices, and wherever I go I see some man who has a photograph of his wife and baby in a little frame or case on his desk. Nearly always it is a handsome little oval gilt frame, and the state of the little oval gilt fra

Bugler Charles Doctor headed the storming column by marching upon the banquet tables and sounding Mess Gear. Hard by the bugler was Bo's'n's Mate Charles A. Beal. Following these came Rear Admiral Coghlan with Vice-Commander De Forest, leading a column of some two hundred guests.

A handy orchestra a little aft of some hothouse palms broke out with "Strike Up the Band, Here Comes a Sailor." They quickly switched to "The Star Spangled Banner" on sight of a color sergeant accom penied by two guards bearing down the main aisle carrying a stand of colors, which was placed behind Admiral Coghlan's seat.

to add a lot of books to my library. I do not like glaring new bindings so I thought Then came cheers and the diners were brought back to the stern sense of duties only by the boson's mate, who gravely piped all hands to splice the main brace, which in navy parlance means to have a drink.

many of them would cost me more than I would have to pay for the same author's works fresh from the publishers. Books are cheaper than dirt. I can buy a bushel of new books cheaper than I can a bushel of good soil from a florist. There are so many "Popular Editions," "Home Libraries," "Fireside Editions," "People's Libraries" and sets of that kind offered for sale at absurdly low prices, especially at holiday. Hardly was the rollicking crew seated than a chorus broke out in unison from

Here's to Joe: here's to Joe Ob, so dev'lish! Hoch der Kalser!

absurdly low prices, especially at holiday times, that the humblest flat dweller can The merriment only quieted down long enough for the health of the President of have his own Carnegie library at his own radiator side, in bindings so bright and gay they will keep him awake night 3." the United States to be drunk amid cheers.
Vice Commander De Forest proposed a
toast to Rear Admiral Coghlan, the Ad miral's country, his family and his host of friends He then introduced the guest of "At the beginning of every season there honor. As one man the diners jumped up, singing "For he's a jolly good fellow." Admiral Coghlan was much moved, but are the usual complaints about high prices of seats at the opera," said a .heatrical man. "When P. T. Barnum brought Jenny

got into action in a hurry.

"This is honor enough to take any man's breath away," he said. "I hope it does take mine away before I get home. [Laughter.] Such a reception should be most pleasing except to a diffident man like myself. I am in the same boat with the fellow who died and then came to life. His wife said feelingly as she showed him His wife said feelingly as she showed him

announced at \$3 a seat, yet some brought as high as \$25 and the auction sales reached a total of more than \$25,000.

"The New York public of to-day does not differ materially from that of 1850. Jenny Lind's share of the receipts was \$10,000, which share yided among twelve charities. e flowery obituaries: 'John, don't you feel glad over that?' which she divided among twelve charities in this city. One of the charities was the Fire Department Relief Fund, which she "No," he replied. 'I wish to God I had died.' [Laughter and roars of 'Bully Jo' and 'Hoch! Hoch!']. It should be a sorrow for a man approaching the age where he is legally ostracised, but your spirit does much to appease this." There is no longer any reason why visitors He said the proper way to live a life was so that a man's neighbors and friends to the Metropolitan Opera House should stumble down the steps concealed by the

doors that lead from the corridors into the auditorium. Mr. Conried has had should not have a bad opinion of him. He had tried to do that.
"You all know navy officers are not well painted on every door the number of steps trained on after dinner speaking. They are not good orators at such times, but often to the point with such epigrams as 'I don't care if I do,' or 'A little sugar in time lease.' [Explosions] hat are to be found on the other side of

N. Y. U. MEN PRAISE "STEVIE." ine please.' [Explosions]."
He spoke at length of his appreciation of the honor bestowed upon him, and sat down amid applause that lasted several minutes. One of the diners arose and began read-New York University spirit overflowed

ing numerous letters received.

"The first," he said, "is in simplified spelling." After the laughter subsided he read as follows: I wish I could be present at the dinner in

honor of Rear Admiral Coghlan. He is no only an esteemed officer but a personal friend. Thru this I convey my keenest regrets at Very truly yours,

with the rival yells of classes from "eighty" THEODORE ROOSEVELT to "oughty-four" and with repeated cheers "Stevie." Finally when Chancellor Other letters were read from Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte, Admiral Dewey Gen. Horace Porter, ex-Secretary of the Navy McAdoo, Rear Admiral Evans, Rear MacCracken referred to him as "the heart in the centre of the violet of N. Y. U., a professor whose custom it was not simply Admiral Schley, retired, and Cornelius to give knowledge of geology, but to make young men true men" the whole assembly

Gen. Horatio C. King told a humorous story of Gen. Sickles. The latter met a Southern planter and tried to advise him on the reformation of the negroes. The planter retorted by saying: "Hell, if the other Yankee Generals don't

know any more than you do I can't see how the South ever got licked."

Gen. King wound up by reading an original poem dedicated to Rear Admiral Coghlan.

Mighty is his store of knowle. ge-of the troglodyte. part it follows: Dinosaur and megatherium he can sagely write.
'Mid the rocks of worldly trouble, golden his advice, Now douse my gilin and shiver my ti mbers thro', Fore I'll believe that Joe is 62; By navy law I hear that it is writ

That he's a nautical wreck— Why, bless my timbers, he's just as good As the youngest kld on deck.

So here's to you. Admiral. And may you wear your natural hair Till you reach a hundred year. And when old Father Time has lost his job,

I'll bet a keg of beer,

That you'll be 'round to take his scythe And start a new career. Congressman Sulzer, when the hurrahing and toasting had subsided, arose to speak. "I brought on the Spanish war," he said. "Why, Speaker Reed used to shout out, 'Say, can't you shut off Sulzer from making another speech against the Spanish?"
Gov. Black wouldn't muster my regi-ment and me in. He was afraid I'd come

back. He mustered in another that did come. He succeeded Black." Among those present were Alfred Vander-bilt, Capt. J. W. Miller of the Naval Militia, Dr. McGowan, M. B. Field and Loyall Farragut, only son of the late Admiral Farragut.

GILLETTE DENIES CONFESSION. Telegraphs to His Mother That He Is Inno.

cent and Expects a New Trial. HERKIMER, Dec. 7 .- Chester Gillette, awaiting sentence of death on Monday for the murder of Grace Brown, to-day received a telegram from his mother in Denver, Col., in which she informed him that she had at hand a message saving that he had made a confession. She urged her son to repent. The prisoner looked at the telegram in some surprise, but made no remark on it to those at the jail. He did pen an answer to it and had it despatched at once, denying that he had made any admission of guilt in the case. This was the text of the telegram:

"I have made no confession. I am inno-cent and expect a new trial. Believe no reports in the newspapers about me."

From the tone of the brief message of Gillette's mother urging him to repend one might think she took the confession for granted, even after her son had so strongly expressed his innocence in his procession to the same to her after some time. previous message to her. After saying she hoped he would repent Mrs. Gillette again requested her son, in nearly the same language as she used before, to read certain passages of the Bible and to put

his trust in God. Absolutely confident that he will obtain a new trial, Gillette expressed that confidence to his guards and reiterates his innocence of any crime at Big Moose Lake. His incomparable nerve and self-possession is a mystery to every one with whom he comes in contact. He sleeps and eats



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of persons at once. And that is the great merit of the game. The hostess can get up a FULL-FLEDGED TOURNAMENT, and have prizes for the Winner, the Runner-Up, and the Winners of the various "Eights."

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Nine boards represent the nine different holes of the Indoor Course. When a Tournament is played, nine small tables are arranged—one for each hole of the course; and players pass from one table to the other. There is constant life and activity-the thing most pleasing to

Of course the game is played at one table, by merely changing the boards, when two, three or four people are playing.

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POLICE GRAFT IN CHINATOWN. Sleuths Out Looking for Eluccoat Who Is

Accused of Blackmail The Chinese Reform Association sent a letter to Police Commissioner Bingham complaining that the police have been trying to shake down keepers of gambling houses, lottery shops and opium joints in Chinatown. The secretary of the association, who forwarded the complaint, mentioned the name of a policeman and charged that he had gone to the Chinese proprietors or illegal resorts in the vellow belt and emanded protection morey. This policeman, the secretary alleged, told the Chinanon that protection money which is said to have been paid to the ca; tain of the Elizaetr street station in the past was in the future to be turned over to the inspector. The policeman is said to have told the resort keeper that he was the inspector's man and declared that he and another cop, who was his partner, were the only ones assigned to get the hush money for the big boss-the

The secretary of the association cited several new cases of graft and characterized them as absolute blackmailing. Commissioner Bingham has detectives

at work investigating the graft story.

Dr. Osier Here on a Visit.

Dr. William Osler, formerly of Johns Hopkins University, now iregius professor of medicine at Oxford University, was a passenger on the steamship Celtic of the White Star Line, which arrived here yesterday afternoon. Dr. Osler and his wife are going to Baltimore on a visit. Another passenger on the ship was Major R. G. J. J. Berry of the British Army, who comes here to inspect an order of 10,000,000 pounds of inspect an order of 10,000,000 pounds of beef ordered from a Chicago firm for the

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